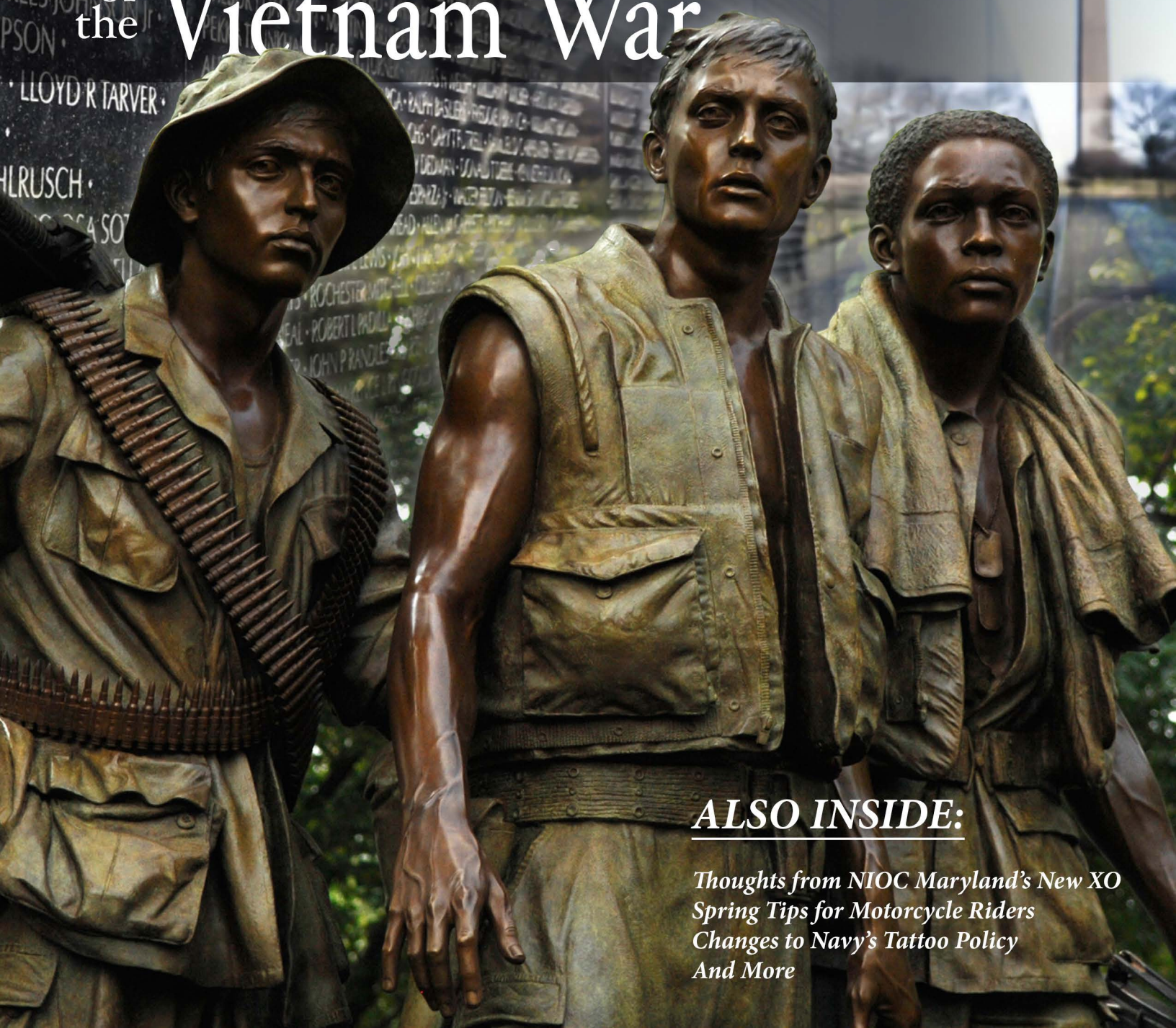


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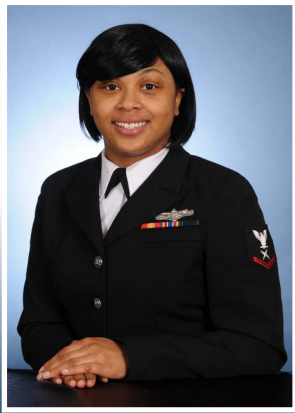
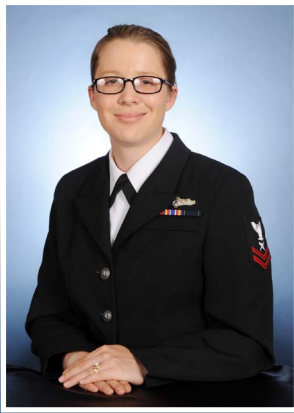
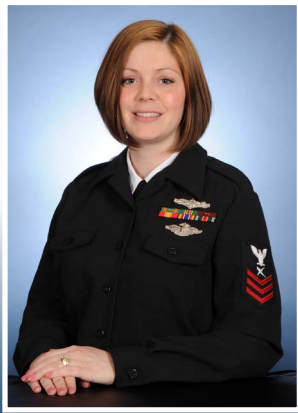
ANCHOR WATCH

Honoring the Veterans of the Vietnam War



ALSO INSIDE:

*Thoughts from NIOC Maryland's New XO
Spring Tips for Motorcycle Riders
Changes to Navy's Tattoo Policy
And More*



Shore Senior Sailor of the Quarter:
Petty Officer First Class McIntyre

Shore Sailor of the Quarter:
Petty Officer Second Class Racicot

Shore Junior Sailor of the Quarter:
Petty Officer Third Class Mallard

Sea Senior Sailor of the Quarter:
Petty Officer First Class Pototsky

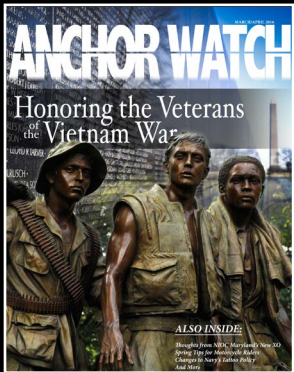
Sea Sailor of the Quarter:
Petty Officer Second Class Fagan

Sea Junior Sailor of the Quarter:
Petty Officer Third Class Curnick



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ANCHOR WATCH
In its 42nd year of production
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Amid Major Restructure, NIOC Maryland Welcomes New XO

Story by Mass Communication Specialist 3rd Class Taylor DiMartino

Cmdr. Kurtis Mole assumed the position of Navy Information Operations Command (NIOC) Maryland Executive Officer (XO) just as the first stages of a command-wide restructure began to take affect.

Cmdr. Mole relieved Cmdr. Owen Schoolsky on March 11. Having previously been XO at NIOC Whidbey Island, and more recently a Director's Fellow at the National Security Agency, he brings a wealth of experience to a NIOC ready for it's first major change in more than a decade.

"As XO, my role is to help the CO execute his vision, and manage the day-to-day operations of the crew," said Mole. "When I was asked to take over as XO by Capt. Scheidt, he told me that helping manage the transition would be a top priority."

Cmdr. Mole said NIOC Maryland's restructure is going to bring about positive changes to the way leaders interact with their Sailors.

"Right now, it's very difficult for mid-range and senior leadership to maintain contact with their Sailors," said Mole. "We're looking at departments alone having several hundred Sailors, more than the total manning for other NIOCs around the country and overseas."

"Our new organization will downsize and re-scale the command to much more manageable levels, making things better for individual Sailors in the end," Mole said. "Sailors will have more contact with leadership and the command will have more agility, which is critical if we hope

to better achieve our mission and meet current and future cryptologic warfare and cyber challenges."

For Cmdr. Mole, the unique challenges faced by junior enlisted Sailors are ones he has experienced himself.

"I enlisted in the Navy as a Chinese linguist," said Mole. "I was 17 when I went to the Defense Language Institute (DLI), so I know what being a young enlisted Sailor feels like. I know what it's like to have an LPO and a Chief, and to be the low man on the totem pole. I've performed the kind of tasks that always seem to roll downhill to junior enlisted, and I understand what that feels like too. It's given me a great opportunity to realize the importance of mentorship and leadership at every level."

Cmdr. Mole said great Petty Officers and Chief Petty Officers have served as leadership models for him throughout his career.

"As XO, I want to build upon where Cmdr. Schoolsky left off," said Mole. "He did a phenomenal job of furthering the command. I want to live up to what he did, and see this command continue to strive to new heights as we all adapt to the restructure. We will ensure that our Sailors continue to perform meaningful work and continue to be challenged."

Cmdr. Mole is set to promote to Captain in September and plans to be relieved as NIOC Maryland XO in August. In the mean time, Cmdr. Mole said he remains committed to seeing Capt. Scheidt's vision for NIOC Maryland become reality. ⚓



Did you know Cmdr. Mole is actually a Maryland native?

"I grew up in Bowie, so I knew a lot of Agency employees. Many of my childhood mentors were active duty military and they were the ones to put me on a path toward military cryptology."

Also, he's eaten insects before... On purpose...

"I've been on multiple deployments over the years and one of my favorite aspects of traveling overseas is experiencing culture through foreign cuisine. I'd consider myself a foodie, and Asia presented multiple opportunities to taste all types of crazy things. My family is a big fan of the show *Bizarre Foods* and we've gone out of our way to find strange, crazy cuisine. I have had silkworms in Korea, durian fruit in Singapore, and I've even had starfish in China."

"In Tokyo, my family ate at a place famous for their cricket pastas. My son was brave and took one bite of what was essentially grasshopper fettuccine Alfredo, and then proceeded to get sick. We have video of the whole thing."

Saluting the Heroes of the



Story and photos by Mass Communication Specialist 3rd Class Taylor DiMartino

Often described as America's forgotten heroes, Vietnam War veterans remain one of the least celebrated groups in contemporary United States history. That is, until recently.

In the past decade, 42 states and Puerto Rico have enacted specific days to remember those who fought communist oppression in the harsh jungle conditions of Vietnam, Laos and Cambodia. Most states recognize a day of observance at the end of May, and Maryland is no exception.

Maryland legislators passed a bill declaring May 30, 2015 as the first Welcome Home Vietnam Veterans Day Celebration in an attempt to rectify the neglect veterans have felt for more than 40 years.



A year later, the ceremony's second annual observance, hosted by Hospice of the Chesapeake, was held in a conference hall at the Hilton BWI Baltimore Hotel. Attendance swelled as more than 600 veterans and their family members arrived at the event.

Gordon Reynolds, a New York native born in Scotland, joined the U.S. Army in 1965 and fought as an infantryman through the Vietnam War until 1972. He described feeling betrayed by the American people in the years following his time in combat.

"My brother and I went to the first welcome home parade held in DC in the early '80s, and we were shocked to see people lining Constitution Avenue to protest what we had done in Vietnam," said Reynolds. "Today's ceremony was a long time coming. For me, finally hearing 'welcome home boys' is incredibly heartwarming."

The ceremony began with opening remarks

from Midshipman Sarah Howard who offered her personal thanks to the veterans sitting before her. She described with tear-filled eyes how her native-Vietnamese family was saved during the war by American servicemembers. She said it

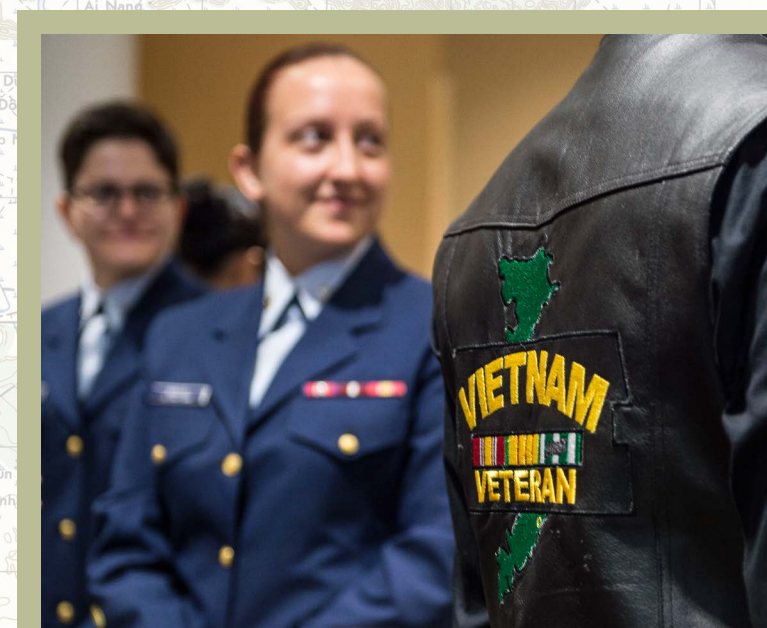
was this heroic action by Vietnam veterans that influenced her to join the Navy.

As the ceremony progressed, guest speakers including Army veteran Jan Scruggs and retired Navy Rear Adm. Robert Shumaker offered first hand accounts of their experiences in the war, harrowing

moments that when relived must have been felt tenfold by veterans in attendance.

One veteran, Maryland native Eugene Anthony, an Army helicopter door gunner from 1965-69 recalled feeling contrasting emotions during the war.

"There were moments when the war was hell," said Anthony, seated beside his very patient



19-month-old service dog, Piestewa. "Serving aboard a helicopter was chaotic at times of course, yet I always felt comfortable next to my crew. They were my family. That's why it hurt so bad to come home and be called 'baby killers.' It still hurts. I think people are beginning to realize that they were wrong in the past. The support we feel from these young men and women serving in the military today makes all the difference."

Nearing the ceremony's conclusion, more than 100 active duty servicemembers marched into position around the audience to render an Honor Salute to every veteran in attendance.

continued on page 6



“Having more than 100 volunteers for the salute is a testament to the caliber of our servicemembers,” said Fort Meade Garrison Command Sergeant Major, Sgt. Maj. Rodwell Forbes, who led the salute. “This year’s Honor Salute had more than double the participation from last year. It’s important for our younger generations to honor those that come before them, those that paved the way. As important as this ceremony is, it displays just a part, a fraction of the gratitude our veterans deserve. They made our service to the nation possible.”

“I think that it’s really humbling to be here in support of these veterans,” said Petty Officer 1st Class Casey Sampson. “They didn’t get the recognition they deserved when they came home. I hope they realize how much they are appreciated for what they did for their country. I have a long history of Naval service in my family, including my granddad who fought in Vietnam, so it means that much more to me to be part of this salute.”

For more information on how to get involved in these and other volunteer programs, please contact PO1 Abigail Paul at 812-360-6696 or at abigailpaul@hotmail.com 📧



Got Ink?

Navy policy now more lenient on tattoos.



“We just got to the point where we realized we needed to be honest with ourselves and put something in place that was going to reflect the realities of our country and the needs of our Navy,” **Master Chief Petty Officer of the Navy (AW/NAC) Mike Stevens** said in a March 30 interview with *Navy Times*. “We need to make sure that we’re not missing any opportunities to recruit and retain the best and the brightest because of our policies.”

According to updated Navy tattoo policy, after April 30, Sailors can be approved for:

Multiple or large tattoos below the elbow or knee, including the wrists and hands, effectively allowing ‘full sleeve’ tattoos.

One tattoo on their neck, which includes behind the ear, though it may not exceed one inch in length or height in either or both directions.

Sailors with visible tattoos will now be eligible for recruiting duty or leading recruit divisions at boot camp in Great Lakes, Illinois. These tough assignments often give Sailors a leg up to make rank.

Tattoos that are obscene; sexually explicit; advocate discrimination based on sex, race, religion, ethnicity, or national origin; symbolize affiliation with gangs, supremacist or extremist groups, or advocate illegal drug use are still prohibited.



Story and photo by Susan Krawczyk, Recruit Training Command, Great Lakes Public Affairs

The first female recruits at Recruit Training Command were issued their new enlisted white hats, or Dixie cups, as part of the Navy’s efforts for uniformity in service members’ uniform, April 4.

While the rest of the enlisted female E1-E6 Sailors have until Oct. 31 to begin wearing their Dixie cups, the recruits at the Navy’s only boot camp have already begun to do so as per NAVADMIN 236/15.

The Navy redesigned several uniform elements for Sailors that improve uniformity across the force as well as improve the function and fit of their uniforms. The changes will eventually make uniforms and covers more gender neutral.

“This feels incredible as we are making a part of history,” said Seaman Recruit Madeleine Bohnert, of St. Louis, Missouri, as she tried on her cover. “It’s really awesome how something as simple as our cover is so symbolic in regards to equality and the uniformity in the military. It’s a sense of pride knowing that we are a part of getting the first Dixie cups.”

During uniform issue, the female recruits lined up wearing their new covers as their Recruit Division Commanders ensured they were being properly worn.

As Engineman 2nd Class Shanice Floyd, RDC, helped adjust her recruits’ covers for proper fitting, she instructed those with longer hair in braids or buns how to make correct adjustments to accommodate the Dixie cup.

“We’re already part of a team and this just promotes it in a better way,” said Floyd. “Junior enlisted males and females already wear the same dress white uniform so this way when we get into the same dress blues uniform we’ll look more as a unit.

The Alternative Combination Cover (ACC) and current male combination cover for officers and chief petty officers can now be worn by both men and women in service dress uniforms. All officers and chiefs will be required to wear the ACC Oct. 31.

“I am very excited to be one of the first females to be given the opportunity to wear the Dixie cup, and I believe we’ve come really far as a country and as a service,” said Seaman Recruit Maria Frazier, of Springfield, Ohio. “I think it’s really beneficial because as we work side by side, we have to work as a team. For me, it’s important that as we’re working together, we look uniform so we can work in uniform.”

The Dixie cup will match the recently redesigned Service Dress Blue uniforms in jumper style for both men and women, beginning Oct. 1.

The jumper will incorporate a side zipper and the slacks will have a front zipper to help with changing in and out of uniform. This will be the eventual end of the female version of the “crackerjack” uniform with a jacket and tie for female petty officers and junior Sailors.

“I feel that females have been performing to the standard equal to their male counterparts, and right now, with these new covers, we look more as a team,” said Floyd. 📧

ELECTION CYCLE DOs AND DON'Ts

Submission by NIOC Maryland Staff Judge Advocate Office

As the Election Day 2016 approaches, it is important that all DOD personnel, military and civilians, be aware of the limitations that exist when participating in political activity. All personnel are encouraged to carry out the obligations of citizenship. Eligible voters are encouraged to vote. However, some political activities for military and civilians are limited and often prohibited.

The guidance for Military Personnel is contained in DoD Directive 1344.10.

It states that service members are prohibited from acting in any manner that appears to interfere with, approve of, or endorse candidates for political office.

For example, a servicemember may not wear a military uniform while engaging in political activities, partisan political activities or campaigns for a partisan candidate. Engaging in partisan fundraising activities, serving as an officer of a partisan club, or speaking before partisan gatherings is also prohibited. However, servicemembers may express their personal opinions on political candidates and issues, make monetary contributions to a political campaign or organization, and attend political events as spectators when not in uniform.

Reservist and National Guard members not on active duty have more freedom to engage in certain political activities, provided they are not in uniform and do not act in a manner that gives the appearance of official sponsorship, approval, or endorsement of political candidates.

Additionally, servicemembers must also be careful not to comment, post, or link to material that violates the Uniform Code of Military Justice (UCMJ) or Navy regulations. Examples include showing contempt for public officials, releasing sensitive information, or posting unprofessional material that is prejudicial to good order and discipline.

The guidance for DoD civilian participation in political activity is regulated by the Hatch Act (5 USC 7321 – 7326), Implementing Regulations (5 CFR 733 and 5 CFR 734), as well as DoD policy.

Most civilian personnel, including most General Schedule and all Schedule C personnel, are permitted to engage in a variety of partisan campaign activities in their personal capacity. For example, they may volunteer with a partisan campaign (during off-duty time and while not in a Federal building), attend and be active at political rallies, distribute campaign literature, and work at the polls on Election Day for a partisan candidate

However, certain civilian personnel are subject to additional, heightened restrictions and may not participate in partisan campaign activities. These employees include: (1) individuals appointed by the President and confirmed by the Senate, (2) non-career SES members, (3) career members of the SES, (4) contact appeals board members, and (5) all employees of the National Security Agency, the Defense Intelligence Agency and the National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency.

Employees subject to additional restrictions are prohibited from working for a partisan candidate or political party, serving as delegate to a political party convention, holding office in a political club, organizing a partisan meeting or rally, distributing campaign material for a partisan candidate or working at the polls on Election Day for a political party.

Additional Social Media Note

Civilian and military personnel may generally express their personal views on public issues or political candidates via social media platforms, such as Facebook, Twitter, or personal blogs, much the same as they would be permitted to write a letter to the editor of a newspaper. If personnel are identified by a social media site as DoD employees when expressing a personal opinion, the posting must clearly and prominently state that “the views expressed are those of the individual only and not of the Department of Defense.”

If you have a specific question about whether a certain action is permissible, you may walk into the NIOC Maryland Staff Judge Advocate’s office with your questions. General guidance on the Hatch Act may be found at the U.S. Office of Special Counsel website at www.osc.gov. ⚓

HAPPY 123RD BIRTHDAY U.S. NAVY CHIEF PETTY OFFICERS!

APRIL 1, 2016





Submission by Rick McBride, NIOC Maryland Safety Office

MOTORCYCLE SAFETY

The sun is shining, the birds are singing and for our motorcycle riders it is prime time to dust off their bikes and get back out on the roads. However, after having a few months off, one's skill (and bike) may be a bit rusty. With warmer weather upon us, every rider should take time to ensure that both they and their rides are road worthy.

Very few riders in this region of the country are hardcore, year round riders. The weather conditions and temperatures make that a difficult endeavor in this area. What many riders do is store their bikes. No matter how it was stored, be it garage, shed, porch or cover, every motorcycle should have spring maintenance conducted prior to hitting the road.

Along with making sure their ride is in order, every motorcycle operator needs to ensure they are ready to ride as well. Learned skills can get rusty from time off and riding in this area can have deadly consequences if one is unprepared.



The Department of Defense and the Navy want to ensure that personnel do not become another unfortunate statistic. This is done through mandatory Motorcycle Safety Foundation training for all operators. This is not just a one-time requirement.

The DoD has the Progressive Training Requirement for all service members that are motorcycle operators. The idea behind it is for riders to receive initial training, the Basic Riders Course (BRC). This course gives them baseline skills and knowledge they will need. BRC needs to be followed with periodic reoccurring training to refresh knowledge and skills.

After taking their initial BRC, all operators are required to complete the next level course within 60 days. The next level course is dependent on the type of motorcycle they ride. For individuals who ride standards, cruisers or dual sports, they are required to take the Experienced Rider Course (ERC/BRC2). For individuals that ride sports bikes, they are required to take the Military Sports Bike Course (MSBC).

Once the next level of training is complete, riders are required to complete a more advanced course every 3 years. The ERC and MSBC meet that need. Additionally, the Advanced Rider Course (ARC) can be taken no matter the type of motorcycle.

If an operator becomes delinquent on their required training, they are not authorized to operate their motorcycle. Delinquent riders found operating their motorcycle will have their driving privileges suspended by their chain of command.

If a delinquent rider is involved in an accident, they risk forfeiture of medical benefits for injuries sustained in the accident, and their SGLI if they unfortunately pass away.

Rider training at Fort Meade is offered to all service members stationed here at zero cost to the service member. The Fort Meade Safety Office offers the BRC (with loaner bikes), ERC and MSBC. Any Navy personnel who want to sign up for MSF training at Fort Meade need to contact the NIOC Maryland Safety Office at 301-677-0299 to register for a course.

Rider training for Navy personnel is also available at other Navy installations within the Naval District of Washington. Each service member can find these courses listed on ESAMS under "My Links" and "Classroom Training." All courses and course locations are listed through the year. Individuals can register themselves on the ESAMS website.

Contact NIOC Maryland Safety Office for more information on MSF training and the training requirements and options, or visit the Navy Safety Center website at: <http://www.public.navy.mil/navsafecen>

HOW TO PREP YOUR MOTORCYCLE FOR SPRING



Change the fluids – Cold weather and lack of use causes many fluids to not have the same consistency as they did prior to storage. Changing the following fluids will ensure a smoother ride and less maintenance issues down the line:

- Gear oil
- Coolant
- Battery fluid
- Shaft drive oil
- Hydraulic fluid

Check the Battery - The cold can be hard on your bike's battery. To prepare for your first post-winter ride, make sure your battery is still in good condition. Terminals should be clean and connections should be secure.

Check Your Controls for Winter Wear - Cold temperatures can really do a number on motorcycle parts, so conduct a thorough inspection of all remaining parts of your bike before you take it out.

Be sure to check your:

- Hoses for cracks, bulges, or leaks
- Throttle for smooth movement
- Cables for damage such as kinks or fraying
- Levers and pedals for breaking or bending

Inspect the Chassis - Last, check the frame of your bike for damage or maintenance. Make sure the:

- Frame has no cracking or dents
- Forks and shocks are adjusted correctly
- Belt and chain have the right amount of tension
- Teeth are mounted correctly
- Fasteners are tight
- Tires do not have any dry rot

Women's History Month Feature

THE LEGACY OF LORI PIESTEWA

The first Native American woman killed in combat while serving in the U.S. Military

The first woman killed in action during the Iraq War



Lori Ann Piestewa was born in Tuba City, Arizona on December 14, 1979 to parents Terry Piestewa and Priscilla “Percy” Baca. Her father is a full-blooded Hopi Native American, her mother is of Mexican descent. Her father’s heritage allowed her family to live in a town located on the Navajo Indian Reservation in Coconino County, Arizona.

The Piestewa family had a long military tradition; her paternal grandfather served in the U.S. Army in the European Theater of World War II, and her father was drafted by the Army in September, 1965 and served a tour of duty in the Vietnam War before he returned home in March, 1967.

In 2003, Piestewa became a member of the Army’s 507th Maintenance Company, a support unit of maintenance and repair personnel.

During the opening days of the war, her company was traveling in a convoy through an Iraqi desert and was meant to bypass Nasiriyah, in southern Iraq, but the convoy got lost and ran into an ambush on March 23.

As Piestewa came under a torrent of fire, she drove at high speed, evading enemy rounds until a rocket-propelled grenade hit her humvee. The explosion sent her vehicle into the rear of a disabled tractor-trailer. Piestewa, her close friend Jessica Lynch, and one other soldier survived the crash with injuries. Three other passengers died.

Those that survived were taken prisoner along with four soldiers from other humvees. A video of the American prisoners of war, including Piestewa, was later shown around the world on Al Jazeera television. According to Lynch’s book—I’m a Soldier, Too: The Jessica

Lynch Story—Piestewa was wounded in the head, and it was impossible to perform delicate neurosurgery in an Iraqi civilian hospital in wartime conditions.

The families of soldiers in the 507th heard almost immediately of the ambush and fatalities in the unit. The Piestewa and Lynch families saw people in the unit being interviewed by Iraqi TV, and for more than a week, they waited for news.

All around Tuba City, signs were hung out telling people: “Put your porch light on, show Lori the way home.” They used white stone to spell her name on a 200 foot high mesa just outside the town.

Unfortunately, while Iraqi doctors were able to save Lynch from injuries she sustained during the attack, Piestewa died from her severe head injuries.

Piestewa was awarded the Purple Heart and the Prisoner of War Medal. The U.S. Army also posthumously

promoted her from Private First Class to Specialist.

Jessica Lynch has repeatedly said that Piestewa is the true hero of the ambush and named her daughter Dakota Ann in honor of her fallen friend.

Arizona’s state government renamed Squaw Peak in the Phoenix Mountains near Phoenix as Piestewa Peak and this was adopted by the U.S. Board on Geographic Names on April 10, 2008. The freeway that passes near this mountain was also renamed in her honor.

Piestewa has also been honored by Indian Nations across United States. Since her death, the Grand Canyon State Games organizers have held an annual Lori Piestewa National Native American Games, which brings participants from across the country.

Her death led to a rare joint prayer gathering between members of the Hopi and Navajo tribes, which have had a centuries-old rivalry. ‡

Hikers gather atop Piestewa Peak in Phoenix, Arizona. At 2,610 feet, it is the second highest point in the Phoenix Mountains.



Story and photo by Mass Communication Specialist 3rd Class Taylor DiMartino

SATURDAY SCHOLARS GRADUATE

Twenty-two elementary school students graduated from Saturday Scholars, a Fort Meade and Child, Youth and Social Services (CYSS) weekend tutor program, April 16.

Saturday Scholars began in 2004 and is a free six-week, joint-military program that seeks to improve children's comprehension in reading, math and English by pairing them with military and civilian volunteer tutors. In the past, Saturday Scholars has been credited with helping boost the Maryland School Assessment Test scores for students.

The graduation, which took place at the garrison's School Age Services on Reece Rd., marked an end to the program's 12th spring session and was attended by Garrison Command Sergeant Major Rodwell Forbes and Cmdr. Kurtis Mole, Navy Information Operations Command (NIOC) Maryland Executive Officer.

Second, third, fourth and fifth grade students tossed their graduation caps into the air after receiving certificates recognizing their achievement. Alongside them were their mentors – 10 Navy volunteers from NIOC Maryland and two garrison DoD civilians.

Chief Petty Officer Jaime DeJesus, assigned to NIOC Maryland, began volunteering with the program in 2009.

"It's one of the most important programs in our community," said DeJesus. "Without this program, students wouldn't have a place where they can excel academically. A lot of these students have difficulty with subjects like math and reading, but I believe that our volunteers do more than just teach academics. They are helping build character in these kids. A one-on-one tutor is an incredibly important connection for a child."

Antoinette Parker, School Liaison Officer for CYSS, said that by using fun and inventive teaching methods, many children come away from the program with a renewed motivation to learn, traits some students don't start out with.

"These servicemembers are bringing their unique skills and experiences to the table when they're tutoring these kids and they are reminding each child that he or she matters," said Parker. "This program is part of the glue that holds our military community together and it's also the military's way of showing that they are committed to the next generation. We are always looking for volunteers who want to make a difference. Making an impact on a child is an opportunity to allow that kid to grow up and make things better for future children."

Petty Officer First Class Krystina Marshall, NIOC Maryland's Saturday Scholars Military Liaison, said that of all the volunteer programs she has participated in, Saturday Scholars has had the most impact on her.

"There's nothing like seeing a child get excited to grasp a concept for the first time," said Marshall. "We couldn't do the job we do without the dedication of our volunteers; active duty and civilian alike. It's a twice-a-year program, so every six months there are opportunities to get involved."

The next session of Saturday Scholars will take place October 15 through November 19.

If parents are interested in getting their kids enrolled they can contact Ms. Parker at: 301-677-1598 or antionette.d.parker.naf@mail.mil

For volunteer opportunities, please contact PO1 Marshall at: 443-479-9471 or kmmars3@nsa.gov ♡

SAILOR IN THE SPOTLIGHT

PO3 CHIVAUN STEPHENS

Story by Mass Communication Specialist Seaman Jennifer Lake

There are many reasons why Sailors decide to enlist in the Navy. Some want the opportunity to meet interesting people and to travel to places they might've never heard of before. For Petty Officer 3rd Class Chivaun Stephens, these were her reasons for wanting to serve:

"The best part about being a Sailor is the networking opportunities," said Stephens, currently attached to N5 Department at NIOC Maryland and transferring to 20 Department within NSA.

"I meet a lot of different people," she said. "If you want to start up a taekwondo class, I know someone who does that. If you want to know someone who does IT (information technology) and makes video games in the civilian sector, I know someone who does that, too, and makes almost a million dollars a year doing so. The Navy is full of networking opportunities."

Stephens enlisted in the Navy in September 2014 from Columbia, South Carolina, where she had been pursuing a bachelor's degree.

Though she was on the path to becoming a teacher prior to enlisting, Stephens often dreamt about doing investigative work on criminals, similar to what she saw on her favorite TV shows.

"Becoming a CTR was my number one choice for a job when I enlisted," Stephens said. "I'm happy that that's the rate that I got. I was curious to learn about what our government intelligence actually does, and in this rate, I get a well rounded background of what we really do."

Though not at liberty to disclose the nature of her job, she hopes to be able to investigate criminals for the U.S. government while in the cryptology field.

Stephens has been stationed at NIOC Maryland for a year and is excited to learn more about what cryptologists do for the nation. While here, she has advanced from Seaman to Petty Officer 3rd Class, and has performed collateral duties as a Morale, Welfare, and Recreations (MWR) program representative and a Sexual Assault Prevention and Response (SAPR) victim advocate. Her next short term goal is to advance to 2nd class petty officer, so she can enjoy living outside of the ship or barracks if her next command happens to be a ship.

"If I like the job field that I am in, my long term goal is to become a chief warrant officer in cryptology," said Stephens. "After you reach a certain rank, pretty much all of your work is administrative, but the chief warrant officer's

job is to continue performing their specialty."

Stephens said she views the chief warrant officer as expert of their field. They also have the experience of being on the enlisted and commissioned side of the Navy. Having such a broad understanding of the Navy and the job she'd be trained to do appeals to Stephens the most for a long time goal.

While she enjoys the networking opportunities that she feels she wouldn't have encountered were it not for the Navy, Stephens looks forward to the traveling opportunities that she'll experience throughout her enlistment.

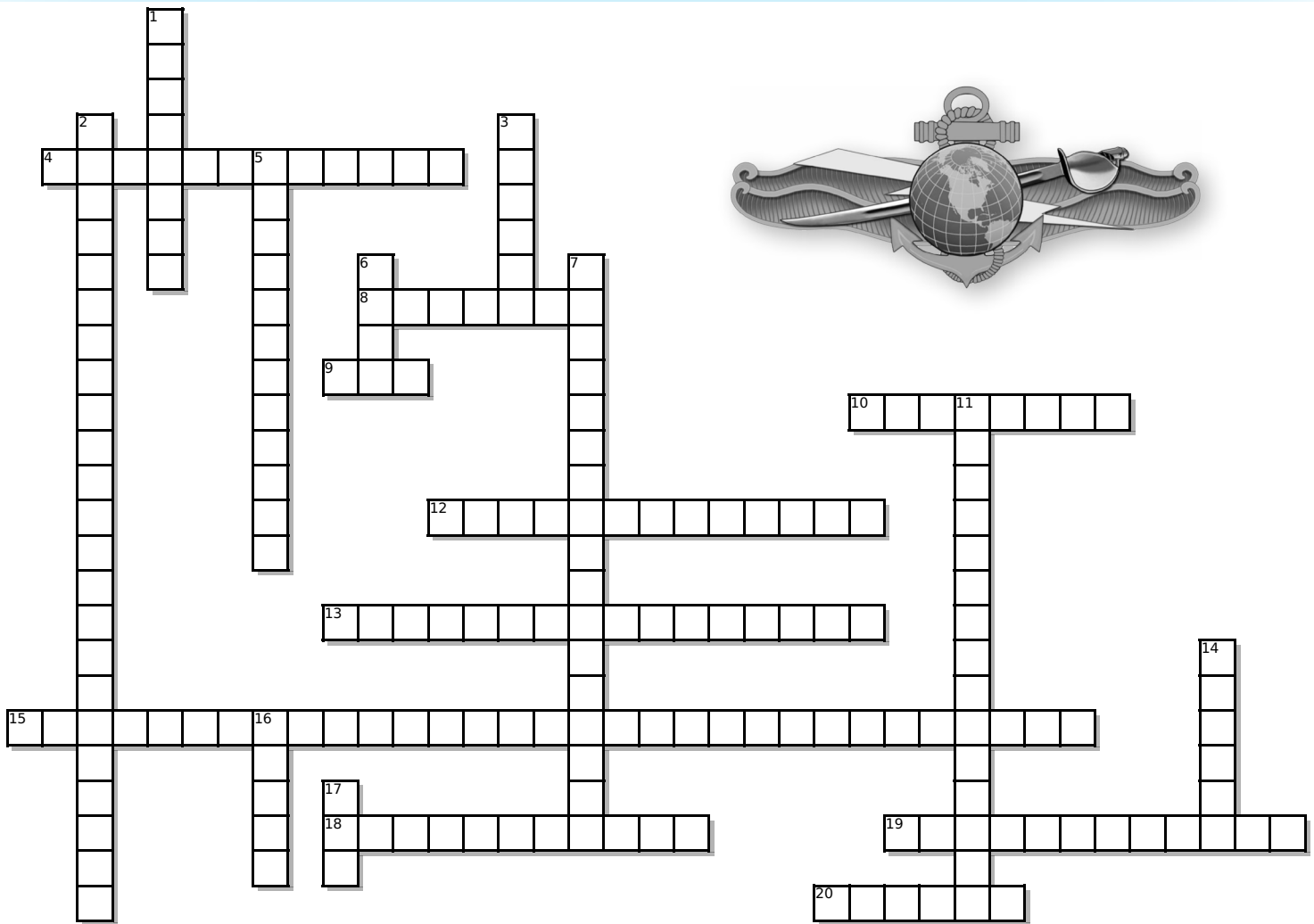
"I plan on traveling the world," she said. "I love the idea of going to another country, and learning the language so I can get around and embrace their culture. I want to dress how they dress and eat their natural foods. I want to enjoy the simplicity of their lives, or experience the hardness of it."

In the near future, Stephens wants to complete a degree in foreign relations by using the Navy's educational benefits, so she can continue learning about cultures and languages around the world. She appreciates that the Navy has afforded her the opportunity to defer her student loans while she serves her country. ♡



Enlisted Information Dominance Warfare Crossword

Common Core: Administration



ACROSS

- 4 Which of the officer accession programs for enlisted personal requires you to be in Annapolis, MD?
- 8 On what page of your service record can you find your dependency application or record of emergency data?
- 9 Who is responsible for maintaining the security of SCI material and providing advice to the CO or OIC on all matters pertaining to SCI?
- 10 Which INFORCON describes when an attack has taken place, but Network Defense system isn't at it's highest?
- 12 Which office handles all inquiries from the media and general public on behalf of the command?
- 13 Who serves as a principle advisor to SECDEF on all audit & criminal investigative matters relating to prevention & detection of fraud, waste, and abuse in programs & operations of the Department of Defense?
- 15 What is the name of a formal inspection process, which holds commanders accountable for their respective security posture?
- 18 In an emergency action plan what gets destroyed first?
- 19 On what page of your service record can you find your Administrative remarks and serves as a chronological record of significant miscellaneous entries not provided elsewhere?
- 20 How many days can a Commanding Officer administratively suspend access before DONCAF revokes a clearance?

DOWN

- 1 How often are security officials required to perform self - inspections of a vault at minimum to ensure SCIFs are meeting ICD705 standards?
- 2 What does MAM stand for?
- 3 Which of the security classifications is updated every 10 years?
- 5 Which security classification uses the color blue?
- 6 What is the acronym for the system that provides real-time information regarding clearance, access, eligibility and investigative status to authorize DOD security personnel and other interfacing organizations?
- 7 Who has overall authority of, and controls access to a SCIF?
- 11 What is an estimate of the amount of money that will be required by an operating unit to perform tasks and functions assigned? Also referred to as checkbook or a running balance?
- 14 What is the color code used to identify something classified as TOP SECRET?
- 16 Which casualty report is used to describe a deficiency that exists in mission essential equipment that is worse than Category 3, and causes a loss of at least one primary mission?
- 17 What is the acronym for the 13-digit number assigned by Defense Logic Agency to identify an item of material in supply distribution system?